Braintree & Bocking URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

C. R. C. RAINSFORD

M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

FOR THE YEAR

1968

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

W. H. Root, Printer, Halstead



BRAINTREE AND BOCKING

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Medical Officer of Health
C. R. C. RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.
Secretary to the Medical Officer of Health

Miss M. F. Anness

Chief Public Health Inspector S. F. BAYLEY, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector W. G. THURSTON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector

A. V. Frisby, M.A.P.H.I. (to 13/12/68)

Authorised Meat Inspectors

I. JONES

E. B. GLITHERO

Clerical Assistant
Miss E. M. SAUNDERS

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES, TOWN HALL, Braintree. July, 1969.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Once again I have pleasure in presenting for your information the annual report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the district.

I am grateful to Dr. Miller Wood for providing details of the work done at the various Essex County Council Clinics.

Vital Statistics

The Registrar General's estimate of the population is 22,950 which is an increase of 640 over 1967. Ten years ago it was 19,230 and in 1938 17,450.

502 live births were recorded and our corrected birth rate of 21.7 is appreciably higher than the national average of 16.9.

There were 298 deaths giving a corrected death rate of 10.3 compared with the national average of 11.9.

Infant deaths numbered 5 and the resultant infantile mortality rate works out at 10.0 which compares favourably with the figure of 18.0 for England and Wales.

The infant deaths were due to congenital heart disease 2, hydrocephalus 1, bronchopneumonia 1 and virus pneumonia 1.

It is sad to see the rise in deaths from a largely preventable disease. In 1968 there were 19 male and 3 female deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus, in 1967 11 males and 1 female and in 1958 7 males and 2 females. How many of these deaths were caused by cigarette smoking it is impossible to say, possibly three-quarters.

Confirmed cigarette smokers may think that it is too late to give up but it is never too late. Statistics show that the risk of lung cancer is appreciably reduced after a period of abstinence of as short as 5 years.

Notifiable Infectious Disease

A total of 353 were notified of which 279 were measles. This is fewer than in 1967 when there were 383 but it is too early to expect any dramatic reduction from the use of the vaccine which was only introduced last year.

The 16 cases of dysentery all occurred in the first months of the year, 13 in January, and was the end of the outbreak which started in 1967.

Diptheria and poliomyelitis both show nil return but odd cases still occur up and down the Country so it is of great importance for parents to see that their children are properly immunized.

Later in this report you will find tables showing the numbers of children immunized and I am pleased to say that all are up on the previous year.

Environmental Hygiene

Much of the routine day to day work of the department is concerned with environmental hygiene and this has been covered by your Chief Public Health Inspector.

It is good to know that the water supply to the town is now extremely satisfactory.

The drainage and sewage disposal facilities are also adequate for the present population but extensions to the works will be necessary to cope with increasing population. This is being looked into.

The Council completed 96 houses during 1968 and a further 174 were built by private enterprise.

Mr. Bayley has dealt with the refuse collection service at some length and I am sure that the introduction of bulk containers in suitable cases will lead to a tidier and better service.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47

It was necessary to obtain a magistrate's order to move two old people from their homes. Both were living alone in very poor surroundings and were quite unable to look after themselves. Action was only taken after the advice and persuasion of doctors and social workers had failed.

It only remains to say thank you to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee throughout the year for their unfailing support and courtesy. As this will be my last annual report I would like to extend my thanks to previous chairmen and committees.

I am glad too, to acknowledge with gratitude the help and co-operation from my colleagues in other departments.

I am more than grateful to Mr. Bayley and his staff for their efficiency and support during the past 14 years. We have discussed many problems together and we have worked together in complete harmony.

Miss Anness has been my secretary for 11 years. She does her job well with a quiet and friendly efficiency which is the same on Monday mornings and late on Fridays.

I am very thankful.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD, Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)			•••			6,812
Population (Re	gistrar General's	estimate)				22,950
Number of inh	abited houses ac	cording to	rate boo	oks		7,938
Rateable value	•••	•••	•••		£1,	071,385
Sum represente	d by a penny r	ate				£4,397
		L STATIS	STICS			
LIVE BIRTHS		Total	Mula	Female		
	Logitimate	Total 473	244	229		
	Illegitimate Total live births	29	15	14		
Birth rate per live	1,000 estimated poinths per cent.	population of total liv	 e hirths			21.9 5.8
Birth rate corre	ected by compar	ability figu	ire of 0.9	99		21.7
Birth rate for I	England and Wal	les per 1,00	00 popula	ition		16.9
STILL BIRTHS) :	Total	Male	Female		
	Legitimate	3	2	1 cmarc		
	Illegitimate	_				
Rate per 1,000	total live and sti	ill births				6.0
Total live and s	births England still births—505	and wates			•••	14.0
100011110						
INFANT DEA	THS:					
	infants under 1 y	ear—				
		Total		Female		
	Legitimate	5	2	3		
	Illegitimate Total infant deat		_	_		
	aths per 1,000 to		rths .			10.0 ~
Legitimate infai	nt deaths per 1,0	990 legitim	ate live	births	•••	10.5
Hegitimate inta	nt deaths per 1. ality rate (deat	()()() Ilegiti hs=under	mato live 4 weeks	births	Lotal	Nil
live births)	•••					4.0
Early neo-natal	mortality rate (d	leaths unde	r I week	per 1,000	total	
Perinatal mortal	ity rate (still bir	 ths and de	aths unde	 er 1 week	 eom-	2.0
bined per l	1,000 total live a	and still b	irths)			8.0
Infantile mortal	ity for England	and Wales	per 1,000	live birth	s	18.0
	MORTALITY (ii	neluding a	bortion):			
Number of dea	ths total live and st	H hinthu		• •••	• • •	Nil
Rate per 1,000	total live and st	iii oirths	•••	••	•••	Nil
DEATHS:						
	Tota					
D 4	298		164			
Death rate per	1.000 estimated ected by compar	population ability figu	 uc of 0.	 79	•••	13.0 10.3
Death rate per	1,000 population	England	and Wal	les	•••	11.9

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1968

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General and the classification is given under the sixty-five headings based on the International Abbreviated List 1968. Only those cause headings with deaths allocated to them are shown, headings with no deaths allocated to them are omitted.

In previous years the 1948 classification with 36 headings was used and all headings were shown whether deaths were allocated to them or not-

				Mala	F 1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system				Male 1	Female
Other tuberculosis, incl. late effects		•••	•••	1	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases					1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach				2	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus				19	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus					2
Leukaemia					2
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.				16	15
Benign and unspecified neoplasms				1	
Diabetes mellitus				1	4
Other endocrine etc. diseases					1
Anaemias					1
Mental disorders				1	4
Meningitis				1	
Other diseases of nervous system, et	c.			2	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease		•••			1
Hypertensive diseases				3	1
Ischaemic heart disease				31	21
Other forms of heart disease				4	11
Cerebrovascular disease				13	25
Other disease of circulatory system				7	8
Influenza				5	8
Pneumonia		•••		8	24
Department and another and				4	2
Other diseases of respiratory system				2	4
Peptic ulcer				1	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia		•••		2	2
Cirrhosis of liver					1
Other diseases of digestive system		•••			7
Hyperlasia of prostrate		•••		2	_
Other diseases, genito-urinary system		•••		2	1
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue				1	
Diseases of musculo—skeletal system	n			1	
Congenital anomalies				2	1
Motor vehicle accidents					2
All other accidents	• • •	•••			4
Suicide and self inflicted injuries		•••	•••	1	3
		All Causes		134	164

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:—

Braintree Essex County Health Services Clinic, Coggeshall Road: (i)

			Attendances
Speech Therapy	Every Thursday and Friday	By Appt.	370
Child Welfare	Every Tuesday	2 p.m.	1,829
Women's Welfare and Cervical			
Cytology	1st & 3rd Wednesday	10 a.m.	134
School Clinic	Every Tuesday	10 a.m.	258
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	Every Tuesday and 1st Friday	(By Appt.)	
Dental Clinic	Monday, Wednesday Thursday & Friday	10 a.m.	2,7 57
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and			
Tetanus Immunisation	1st Friday	3 p.m.	
Bocking—Village Hall. Child Welfare	4th Thursday	2 p.m.	378

(ii) Home Help Service: -

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office. 75. Springfield Road, Chelmsford,

(iii) Ambulance Service: -

The Ambulance Station is situated in Cressing Road, Braintree. A full 24 hour cover is provided.

(iv) Laboratory Services:—

The Essex County Council provide a laboratory service which includes the bacteriological and chemical analysis of water samples, the chemical analysis of sewage effluents, the bacteriological examination of ice cream, and the examination of other foods for pathogenic organisms. These examinations are carried out by either the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.1., or the Public Health Laboratory, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, New London Road, Chelmsford.

(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan Regional

Hospital Board:-

(i) Chest Clinics: --

These are held twice weekly at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Diseases	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria .			_
Dysentery .	. 16	_	
Encephalitis .	. –	_	
Enteric Fever .			_
Erysipelas .		_	
Food Poisoning .	. 2	_	-
Infective Hepatitis .	. 2	_	-
Measles .	. 279	-	-
Meningococcal Infection		_	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorur	1	1	
Paralytic Poliomyelitis			
Non-paralytic Poliomyelit	s —	_	
Pneumonia .		_	_
Puerperal Pyrexia .	. 1	-	-
Scarlet Fever .	. 19	_	-
Tuberculosis, pulmonar	y 5	4	
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonar	у —		_
Whooping Cough .	28		_
Totals .	353	5	_

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

		1
Age unknown	1-11181111114	25
bna čò 19vC		1
†9- \$ †	1-11/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/1/	4
32-44	1111111111111111111	1
70-34	14	7
61-51	1 1 -	4
71-01	-	6
6- S		111
•	11	42
ε		51
7	11111112111111111	54
I	1-111118	37
under 1 Year		6
At all	16 16 17 18 19 19 19 19 19 19 19	353
Diseases	Diphtheria Dysentery Encephalitis Enteric Fever Erysipelas Food Poisoning Infective Hepatitis Measles Meningococal Infection Ophthalmia Neonatorum Paralytic Poliomyelitis Pneumonia Puerperal Pyrexia Scarlet Fever Tuberculosis, Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary Whooping Cough	Totals

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

Diseases	Total Notified	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Vlul	Aug	j.	غ ا	2	6	
District													3	
Uppumeria	ļ	l	1	1	1	ļ	I	ļ	1	ļ	١	{	ļ	
Dysentery	16		c	-	1	1		ļ					l	
Encephalitis	:	:]	1	4	:					ı		I	1	
Enteric Haver				ì		l	ļ	ļ	ļ	ļ	ļ	ļ	1	
יייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייי	ļ	l	ļ		ļ	1	١	1	1	1	1	ļ	1	
Erysipelas	Į	l	1	1	ļ	1	1	1	Į	1	1	ļ		
Food Poisoning	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	ı	C	ı			
Infective Hepatitis	2	1	1	1	I	1	1	c	1	1			1	
	279	1	_	06	121	23	13	25	œ		-		ļ	
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	·	:	; ;	!!	: 1	;	·	I	-			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	1	Į	1	1	ı		ļ			-	ı	
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	Į	ļ	ļ	I	1	ı			-	ı	
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	ļ	1	1	I	ļ	Į	ļ	ı					
Pneumonia	I	1	Į	Į	l	1	1	1	1	I			١	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	Į	ļ	I	1	_	1	1				
Scarlet Fever	19	1	ı	_	1	4	1	۱ '	1	-	c	×	6	
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	S	ļ	_	2	1	-	İ	_	1	-	۱ ۱	۱ ۵	ا ر	
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	1	1	1	1	ļ	1	·	Į	١	ı	1	1	
Whooping Cough	28	2	1	2	2	7	2	2	3	4	1	-		
Totals 35	353	15	4	96	123	35	18	28	1	7	60	101	60	

TUBERCULOSIS

			New C	ases			Deat	hs	
		Pulm	onary	No Pulm	on onary	Pulm	onary	N Pulmo	on- nary
		M	F	М	F	М	F	M	F
Under 1		_	_	_	_	_	_		_
1	•••••	_	_	_	_	_		-	_
2			—	_	_	_		_	_
3		_	_	_	_	_		_	_
4		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
5 - 9			1	_		_		_	
10 - 14						_	_	_	_
15 - 19		1	_	_	—	_	_	_	_
20 - 34			_	_	_			_	_
35 - 44		—						_	—
45 - 64		2	1				_	_	—
65 & over	• •••••	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
	Totals	3	2	_	_				

Of these, one case was re-notified on taking up residence in the District during 1968.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Primary Courses—	By General Practitioners	By County Staff	Total
Diphtheria, Pertussis	0.50	20	41.6
and Tetanus	378	38	416
Diptheria & Tetanus	5	21	26
Diphtheria		2	2
Pertussis	_	_	_
Tetanus	7	7	14
Poliomyelitis	347	62	409
Smallpox	205		205
B.C.G	_	57	57
Measles	322	99	421
Reinforcing Doses Diphtheria, Pertussis			
and Tetanus	260	18	278
Diphtheria and Tetanus	192	96	288
Diphtheria		2	2
Pertussis	_		_
Tetanus	18	12	30
Poliomyelitis	207	120	327
Smallpox	32	_	32

Public Health Offices, Town Hall, Braintree. July, 1969

To the Chairman and Members of the Braintree and Bocking Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting, in conjunction with the Report of the Medical Officer of Health, my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year 1968.

The report follows the familiar pattern, consisting in the main of statistics on the routine work of the department under the various statutes.

The number of visits made and work accomplished is of a similar order to that of recent years, except there was a considerable drop in the number of pigs slaughtered due to the cessation of slaughtering at one establishment from the end of July. It is doubtful whether this particular slaughterhouse will be used again.

With reference to public cleansing the increase in packaging materials continues at a pace which gives rise to some concern. The amount of lightweight paper and cardboard accumulated at quite moderate sized establishments is astounding. There is also a growing practice for certain trades to leave large cardboard containers at private dwellings after delivery of goods. The disposal of these containers tends to upset the rhythm of the refuse collectors. The introduction of the smaller type bulk container will go some way towards improving the storage and collection problems at trade premises, but more co-operation is needed from traders in preparing, by crushing or tearing, the larger cardboard boxes prior to collection.

It is also hoped that the unsatisfactory conditions arising from market waste will also be improved by introducing bulk containers.

The number of improvement grants made during the year maintains the recent yearly average of fifty, a figure which might well be about the limit with which the trade can at present cope. Without being too complacent I regard these figures as satisfactory.

I wish to thank Members for their support and to acknowledge the help and co-operation of the Health Department staff and of my fellow officers in other Departments.

I am,

yours faithfully,
S. F. BAYLEY,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

During 1968 85% of the water was obtained from the Codham bore-hole and 15% from the Notley Road borehole.

All the water was oblorinated before passing into the mains and none is liable to have plumbo-solvent action. The supply from Codham is subjected to aeration, filtration and softening which ensures a water of an acceptable quality as can be seen in the following reports.

The number of samples submitted during the year for bacteriological

examination was as follows:-

		Raw	Water in	
		Water	Supply	Total
Codham Borehole	 	5	5	10
Notley Road Works	 	1	_	1
Private Supplies	 	2		2

All the samples were reported upon as being satisfactory.

Samples were also submitted for chemical analysis and typical results of the samples were given as follows:-

Sample from Braintree Waterworks 13.5.68

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance:	Clear	and	Bright	Turbidity				Nil
Colour (Hazen)			Nil	Odour				Nil
pH			8.0	Free Carbon	Die	oxide		5
Electric Conduct	ivity		1700	Dissolved So	lids	dried at		
Chlorine present	as Chlo	Pride	400	180°C				1150
Hardness: Total								
	nate			Carbonate				280
Non-C	arbona	te	0	Nitrite Nitro	gen	less	thai	n 0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen				Oxygen Abso				
Ammoniacal Niti				Metals Iron				
Albuminoid Nitro				Zinc, Coppe.				

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water has very moderate hardness and a high but not excessive content of mineral constituents. Organic and bacterial purity are very satisfactory.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable

for drinking and domestic purposes.

Sample from Codham Borehole. Before Treatment 23.10.68 CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

CILLITIE	TIES CELE	
Appearance: Very fa	int yellow	Turbidity Less than 3
brown opalescence wi	ith a slight	Odour Nil
brown deposit. M	icroscopical	Free Carbon Dioxide 25
Examination: Minera	l Particles.	Dissolved Solids dried at
Colour (Hazen)	Nil	180°C 640
pH	7.4	Alkalinity as Calcium
Electric Conductivity		
Chlorine present as Chlo		Nitrite Nitrogen Less than 0.01
	360	Nitrate Nitrogen 0.2
Carbonate	280	Ammoniacal Nitrogen 0.02
Non-Carbonate	e 80	Albuminoid Nitrogen 0.00
Permanganate Value	0.10	Residual Chlorine
Iron		Zinc, Copper, Lead and
		Manganese Absent

This sample shows slight opalescence and deposit associated with the trace of iron which is present. The water is free from other metals; its reaction is slightly on the alkaline side of neutrality. It is very hard in character but contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water, very suitable for

treatment including removal of iron, for public supply purposes.

Sample from Codham Borehole: After Treatment 23.10.68

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Bright with a	few	Turbidity Less than 3
particals.		Odour Nil
Colour (Hazen)	Nil	Free Carbon Dioxide 3
pH	8.1	Dissolved Solids dried at
Chlorine present as Chloride	168	180°C 690
Hardness: Total		Alkalinity as Calcium
Carbonate	190	Carbonate 190
Non-Carbonate	5	Nitrate Nitrogen 05
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.02	Nitrite Nitrogen Aprox. 0.01
Albuminoid Nitregen	0.00	Permanganate Value 0.20
Residual Chlorine	0.03	Metals Iron: 0.03
		Zinc, Copper & Lead Absent

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The hardness of the water is moderate and its content of mineral and saline constituents is not considered excessive. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for public

supply purposes.

WATER CONSUMPTION IN THE DISTRICT

The amount of water pum	ped du	ring 1968	: -	
Notley Road Waterworks Codham Borehole	•••			49,643,700 293,170,000
			Total	342,813,700

I am indebted to the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer for the

above figures.

Based on the total population of 22,950 and allowing for 120 persons occupying 40 houses who do not obtain a supply from the public mains, these figures represent an overall consumption of 41 gallons per head per day. The amount of water supplied through meters for trade and agricultural purposes was 60,648,671 gallons equivalent to 7.4 gallons per head per day, leaving a net consumption per head per day of 33.6 gallons for domestic purposes.

The total amount of water distributed increased by almost 15 million gallons an increase of $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ over the previous year and was sufficient in

quantity.

It is estimated that 22,830 persons who occupy 7,898 houses are served by public mains. Of these, 8 houses with an estimated population of 24 are served by 5 standpipes situated in the open.

There are 40 houses with private supplies, 35 of which are piped inside.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Twelve samples of the final effluent of Braintree Sewage Works were taken by the inspectors of the Essex River Authority.

Five were reported as satisfactory, two of unsatisfactory B.O.D. and

five as unsatisfactory.

In addition a further two samples were taken at varying stages to show the degree of purification.

At Bocking Works four samples were taken, all of which were re-

ported as satisfactory

It must be realised that a very high standard is set by the River Authority due to the low dilution of the discharge and these results show the works are reasonably adequate for the district. Further expansions are planned to allow for population increase.

Two houses sharing one W.C. now no longer share.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Throughout the year a weekly collection was maintained due to the sustained effort of the three crews. Credit, too, must be given for the extra effort made at bank holidays and through all sorts of weather. At times, particularly when holidays and sickness came together, it was not easy to maintain full crews but the position was helped when it was decided to carry three spare loaders.

Inevitably there were some vehicle breakdowns, sophisticated vehicles with more moving parts particularly when working with such an arduous material as refuse, can at times be a liability, but the spare dust cart did good service, considering its age, as a stand-in. New vehicle regulations made it necessary to give consideration to the replacement of two vehicles and the Council decided to order a new fore and aft tipper to replace the spare one during the next financial year and to use the other fore and aft tipper as a spare until the regulations enforce its discontinuance in 1972.

The Council, thinking progressively, decided that it was opportune to introduce bulk containers which have a capacity of $1\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yards and many advantages, both aesthetic and hygienic over dustbins in premises where sufficient refuse is produced to warrant their use. Consequently the new vehicle will be fitted with lifting gear for emptying these containers. This change will necessitate this vehicle being used in the town centre and new routes are being devised by the Work Study Department.

During the year two special collections of bulky articles were carried out when calls were made at 524 houses, and many unwanted articles, which otherwise might have found their way into ditches or on to waste ground, were disposed of satisfactorily. This work was mainly carried out by our own men and lorries with a hired vehicle where necessary.

The refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at Straits Mill. The Braintree R.D.C. was without a tip of their own throughout the year. It is unfortunate that, due to their protracted negotiations and the size of the tip, insufficient time is allowed for the refuse to settle and compact evenly but it is hoped that this will be rectified next year when, as promised, their refuse will be taken elswhere. Consequently a new tipping area will soon be required and planning permission was sought. It was not always possible to ensure the tip was properly covered due to an unsettled period when, within a short space of time there were three different drivers none of whom were proficient enough to operate the tracked vehicle, which needs experience to use to its full potential.

Various trials were made with plastic and paper sacks and bin liners and the use of a plastic tub in place of concrete sack holders. The Council are agreed in principal that the use of a sack has many advantages over a dustbin and, whilst not being able to make a complete change throughout the district due to the lack of finance, encourage the use of sacks on new estates. The plastic tub used with a liner appears to combine the advantages of a dustbin with those of a sack holder and would appear to be the most reasonable and least objectionable means of storing refuse at a house while awaiting collection.

Early in the year a foreman was appointed to take charge of the day-to-day supervision of the service and the man appointed has proved to be an asset. His keen, energetic approach to the job is of great value and is reflected in the way the service has been maintained and the way the tip is run.

The year has been one of progress and it is pleasing to see that the lead given by the Working Party on Refuse Collection is being followed in a forward-looking way.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

(1) Number and Nature of Inspections.

During the year 1968 the following inspections were made by the Public Health Inspectors to the premises detailed:—

Nature of Inspections	S		Primary Inspections	Revisits	Total Visits
Other Visits—Housing Act Other Visits—Public Health Act Improvement Grants			18 56 52 131 80 26 26 50 23 94	17 65 23 67 132 2 	35 121 75 198 212 28 26 134 44 139
Ice Cream Premises	 ons	ry 	150 4 7 41 21	2 1 	152 5 7 65 25
Factories Act (Power) Factories Act (Building Sites) Shops Act Barbers Shops Drainage Atmospheric Pollution Overcrowding Caravan Sites Vermin and Insect Pests Rat Infestations Interviews Owners/Builders			3197 56 16 22 11 3 90 40 17 21 63 49 154	28 9 9 6 3 7 66 8 7 30 55 1	3225 65 25 28 14 10 156 48 24 51 118 50 154
Swimming Baths Swimming Baths, Sampling Offices, Shops and Railway Premi Public Cleansing and Civic Amen	 ses Act		81 6 200 420 260 5496	111 102 1 	81 6 311 522 261 6426

(2) NOTICES

Sanitary Defects and Nuisances	Defects Etc. Found	Work Done or abated
(a) Housing	104110	or availed
Defective roofs, rainwater pipes etc.	6	1.1
Other external defects		1 2
Damp walls	4	7
Internal defects	7	4
Defective sinks	ĺ	i
(b) Drainage		
Choked drains and W.C.s	126	126
Defective Drains	3	120
Old drains tested	_	13
(c) General		1,5
Defective W.C.s and W.C structures	5	7
Houses without dustbins	J	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Houses with defective dustbins	9	12
Dirty Houses	9	12
Contraventions of Factories Act	t	1
Other nuisances		2
Contraventions of the Offices, Shops	and	2
Railway Premises Act	10	3
•		OTICES ABATED
11 THIS D. D. P. C. L. F.	34	38
STATUTORY	1	

HOUSING

Ninety-six houses were completed by the Council during 1968 and a further one hundred and seventy-four privately.

Individual Unfit Houses

A closing order was made on one house.

Re-Housing

Seven families were re-housed from houses subject to demolition orders in 1968.

Repair of Houses

Eleven houses were made fit as a result of informal action under the Housing Act and Public Health Act.

Improvement Grants

During the year there were fifty-five applications for improvement grants and one re-application for change of owner where a grant had previously been approved and not taken up. Ten Discretionary Grants for improving houses, and forty-four Standard Grants were made, in one case the maximum being extended to allow for building a bathroom, and in one

case grant could not be made as the work was already started.

The Council approved a total of £2,648 for Discretionary Grants and a maximum of £5,179 for Standard Grants. This amounted to an annual charge on the rates of £67 for Discretionary Grants and a maximum of £131 for Standard Grants.

The mobile exhibition unit of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government visited Braintree during June when 208 enquiries were made.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

A total of 311 visits were made to various premises, almost half being general inspections. Steady progress is being made and it is felt the situation is satisfactory. Most of the contraventions found were of a minor nature and it was not necessary to institute legal proceedings in any of these instances.

No applications for exemptions were received and only two accidents

were notified, both being only slight were not investigated.

Number of Persons employed	437 705 73	87	1302	525	777
Number of Registered Premises Receiving General Inspection	36 98 7	∞	149	Total Males	Total Females
Total Number of Registered Premises at end of year	62 134 8	16	220		
Number of Premises Registered During Year	-	1 1	-		
Class of Premises	Offices Retail Shops Wholesale Shops and Warehouses Catering Establish-	ments open to the Public & Canteens Fuel Storage Depots	Total		

			Number	of
Premises	Number on Register	Numbe" of Inspections	Written	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	7			
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	100	25	1	_
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)		28		_
Total	149	53	1	_

(II) Cases in which DEFECTS were found:-

	Numbe	h defects	Number			
		1	Ref	Referred		
Particulars	Found		To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Prosecu- tions were instituted	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable temperature	_		=	_	=	
(S.3) Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of	_	_	=		=	
floors (S.6) Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	_	_				
(a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or defective (c) Not separate for sexes	1	1 - -	Ξ	1_		
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	- 1	_	_	_		
Totals	1	1	_	1	_	

Outworkers

There is one outworker in the District engaged in the making of wearing apparel. No contraventions of Sections 133 and 134 were observed.

Fourteen visits were recorded to various shops under this Act and occupiers notified of contraventions. Shops inspected under the Offices, Shops, and Railway Premises Act are not included in this section unless a contravention of the Shops Act is found.

Atmospheric Pollution

The daily volumetric smoke and sulphur instrument continued to operate as part of the National Survey.

Two applications for the approval of the installation of boilers under the Clean Air Act were made and granted.

Moveable Dwellings

Two permanent sites and one holiday site were licensed during the year together with a single caravan on Council owned land which does not require a licence. Of the permanent sites one is for a single caravan.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are three open-air pools in the district, two of which are at schools.

Eighty-one visits were made to the pools when tests for available chlorine were made, samples taken and advice given where necessary.

The number of samples submitted during the year was as follows:-Council Baths

	Bacteniological	Chemical
Main Pools	 2	1
Tabor Pool	 1	
Alec Hunter School Pool	 1	
John Bunyan School Pool	 1	

All the bacteriological samples were reported upon as being satisfactory. The chemical sample showed an abnormal pH value and to correct this the pool was drained and re-filled.

The Council Pool is opened for special instruction sessions for school children from Braintree and surrounding areas.

Insect Pests

The occupiers of private slaugterhouses were advised and assisted regarding fly control and premises were kept under surveillance.

Advice and assistance were also given to occupiers regarding ants, red spiders, cockroaches, fleas and other pests in respect of 36 premises.

The tip and refuse vehicles were treated to control flies.

In addition the Rodent Operator dealt with 15 Wasps' nests.

Disease of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

The licence for one plant for sterilization of waste foods operating in the area was renewed during the year.

Steam Disinfector

This apparatus was not used during the year.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Two licences to keep pet shops were renewed during the year.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

One licence to keep a cattery was renewed.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There were two dealers on the register in 1968, one of whom was removed as his three year registration expired.

Rodent Control

The services of a full time operator were again shared with neighbouring Authorities.

The work done during the year was as follows:—

Total number of	er of inspe properties f	ctions and ound to be	reinspec infested	tions and tr	eated:—		957
Major Minor	•••	•••		•••	•••		6
Mice	•••	•••				•••	293 47
Survey only		,			•••		76
Number of	block cont	rol schemes	carried	out			13

During the period covered by this report your Council continued the free treatment of domestic premises and the treatment of business premises upon a chargeable basis.

A 10% test of the sewers was made with a satisfactory result no takes being recorded.

Legal Proceedings

No legal proceedings were instituted.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

During the year six cases of foreign bodies in food and four cases of food unfit for human consumption were investigated.

Ice Cream

Two local manufacturers and their premises were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream and one was registered for the manufacture and sale of soft ice cream.

Fifty-eight certificates of registration were in force covering vendors of ice cream retailing from shops and mobile vans in the area. A few vendors registered elsewhere in the County of Essex also operate in the Council's district.

Eleven samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue reduction tests with the following results:—

Manufactured in District		Manufactured Outside the Distri	ct
Four in Provisional Grade	I	Three in Provisional Grade	I
Nil in Provisional Grade	H	One in Provisional Grade	II
One in Provisional Grade	III	One in Provisional Grade	III
One in Provisional Grade	IV	Nil in Provisional Grade	IV

Where the samples fell in grades III and IV attention of the manufacturers was drawn to the lower quality and improvements were effected.

Meat

All animals, including horses, slaughtered in the Council's area were inspected.

Throughout the year the Council made a charge for the inspection of all meat in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, and each carcase was stamped.

Horse flesh slaughtered for human consumption in the Urban District is sold outside the Council's area.

The following sets out the particulars of animals slaughtered and of inspections and conditions during the year:—

C	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	3,195	389	66	8,260	15,941	863
Number Inspected	3,195	389	66	8,260	15,491	863
All Diseases except Tub	erculosis	& Cyst	icercosis	:		
Whole carcases	_			_		
condemned	7	6	4	5	1.1	2
Weight in 1b.	1.070	1.034	2.47	221	1.000	1.120
condemned Carcases of which	1,958	1,844	347	331	1,000	1,120
some part or organ						
was condemned	439	109	7	257	857	32
Weight in 1b.	737	107	′		037)
condemned	6,522	2.737	9	561	2,595	889
Percentage affected	14.0	29.6	16.7	3.2	5.4	3.9
Tuberculosis only:—						
Whole carcases						
condemned			_			
Weight in lb.						
condemned	_					_
Carcases of which						
some part or organ					100	
was condemned				_	190	
Weight in 1b.					1.000	
condemned		_			1,900 1.2	
l'ercentage affected					1.4	
Cysticercosis:—						
•						
Carcases of which						
some part or organ was condemned	1					
was condemned Weight in lb.	1				_	
condemned	28					
Carcases submitted for	20					
treatment by						
refrigeration	1	-		_		
Generalised & totally						
condemned			_		_	_
l'ercentage affected	0 03	_				

Each slaughterhouse occupier was responsible for the satisfactory disposal of all condemned meat and offal. Supervision by your inspectors ensured that this method provided adequate safeguards to Public Health.

Slaughter of Animals Act

Twenty-four licences to act as a slaugterman were renewed during the year, four of these licences being extended to include the slaughter of horses, and two new licences were granted.

Other Foods

As a result of inspections carried out at food shops and food preparing premises in the district, the following items were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

Lamb 2	22 Tinned	Corned	Beef		71
Tinned Ham & Pork Shoulder 1	Tinned Meat	Pork L			
			• • •	•••	0
Tinned Chopped Pork 3	Tinned	Meat			24
Tinned Tomatoes 32	23 Tinned	Peas	•••		27
Tinned Baked Beans 1	Tinned	Vegetab	oles		220
Tinned Peaches 26	Tinned	Pears			131
Tinned Pineapple 7	78 Tinned	Plums			7
Tinned Fruit 63	34 Tinned	Fish			57
Frozen Food 57	74 Jam				41
Butter 2	28 Biscuits				60
Fish 7	71 Miscella	neous			464

Total—3,167 lb.

Food Hygiene

During the year 291 visits were made to various premises, including market stalls, and the following contraventions were found and remedied:-

	Found	Remedied
Cleanliness of equipment	. 1	3
Sanitary conveniences	. –	4
Wash Basins	. 1	1
Sinks	1	
Cleanliness and repair of food rooms	3	5
Accumulation of refuse	. 1	

In addition several minor contraventions were dealt with informally.

Food Premises

The number of premises totalling 185 where food is prepared, stored or retailed is as follows:—

	Number	Number fitted	Number	Number fitted to
Type of Premises	of	to comply		Comply
	Premises			ulation 19
Hotels and Licensed Premis-	es 47	47	47	47
Restaurants (including snack				
bars)	14	14	14	14
Works Canteens	6	6	6	6
School Canteens		12	12	12
	15	15	15	15
	5	5	5	5
Food Manufacturing Premise	5 es 2 7	2	2	2
Wet and Dried Fish Shops.	7	7	6	6 2
Ice C:eam Manufacturers .	-	2	2	2
Dairies and Milk Distributo		4		3
Grocers	35	35	35	35
	<u>7</u>	7	7	7
Bakehouses	7	7	7	7
Bread and Cake Confectione	rs 4	4	4	4
Other Food Shops	13	13	9	9
Hospitals etc	5	5	5	5

Of these numbers, shops dealing with more than one of these items are classified once.

Sampling of Food and Drugs

The provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 relating to the sampling of food and drugs are administered by the Weights and Measures Department of the Essex County Council. The Chief Inspector of that department has kindly supplied the following report—

During the year 1,563 samples of food and drugs were taken throughout the area administered by the County Council. Of these 774 were Milk samples of which 769 were tested in the Department's own laboratory.

Of the 748 sent to the Public Analyst, 27 were the subject of adverse reports. Proceedings were instituted in five instances.

During visits to retail premises, 2,150 pre-packed articles of food were examined by the sampling officers in the course of enforcing the Labelling of Food Order 1953 (as amended) which requires ingredients to be given upon containers.

Of the above-mentioned samples, the following were produced within the Urban District of Braintree and Bocking.

Food and Drugs-Not Milk

Australian Seeded R	nicine		1	Apples (fresh)			1
Australian Seeded K	aisiiis		1	Apples (resn)	• • •	• • •	1
Apricot conserve			1	Blackcurrant Jam			1
Butter			1	Cut Mixed Peel			2
Cake Fruit Mixture			1	Currants			3
Desiccated Coconut			1	Corned Beef			1
Course Cut Marmala	ade .		1	Ground Almonds			1
Ground Rice			1	Hambergers			1
Instant Coffee			1	Jelly-Lemon Flavo	ur		1
Mixed Fruit			1	Mandarin Oranges in	Syru	р	1
Nuts and Raisins			1	Orange Marmalade			1
Raspberry Jam			1	Roasted Salted Pean	uts		1
Salted Cashews			1	Shelled Brazils			1
Sliced Beetroot			2	Sultanas			2
Vanilla Flavour Tab	le Crea	ms	1	Double Cream			1
Ice Cream			1				

Food and Drugs-Milk

Milk 52 (Including 19 from Schools)

All the samples were satisfactorily reported upon with the exception of the Apricot conserve which was found to be slightly deficient in soluble solids. As this sample was an Australian product the matter was brought to the attention of the canning company, their agents and wholesalers by means of letters of advice.



